

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KENTUCKY CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1966 AND COMMENDING THE KENTUCKY COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Kentucky Civil Rights Act of 1966, signed into law by Kentucky Governor Edward T. Breathitt on January 27, 1966. This pioneering legislation prohibited discrimination in employment and public accommodations based on race, color, national origin or religion, and I commend the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights for its steadfast work in enforcing it.

Prior to passage of this measure, discrimination and segregation in employment and public accommodations was not only accepted as the norm in Kentucky, it was often required by state law. Countless Kentucky citizens from all walks of life bravely fought and patiently worked to achieve passage of the law, overcoming seemingly insurmountable obstacles and countless setbacks.

Through their hard work, Kentucky became the first state south of the Mason-Dixon Line to enact civil rights legislation that not only prohibited discrimination in employment and public accommodations, but also included administrative and judicial enforcement powers. At the time of its passage, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. proclaimed the Kentucky Civil Rights Act of 1966 to be “. . . the strongest and most comprehensive civil rights bill passed by a southern state,” and it rightly became a model for other states to enact legislation of their own.

Since then, the Commission successfully expanded the law to prohibit discrimination in employment, public accommodations, housing, and credit transactions based on race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, familial status, disability and smoking status. And in the 50 years since the passage of the Kentucky Civil Rights Act, the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights has filed, investigated, and adjudicated more than eleven thousand complaints on discrimination on behalf of the citizens of Kentucky.

Today, I want to commend the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights for their dedication to upholding this landmark legislation for the last 50 years, and thank them for their tireless efforts to defeat discrimination throughout the Commonwealth.

HONORING JEROME BLUM AND THE JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE USA

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Jewish War Veterans of the USA and their National Commander, Jerome “Jerry” Blum. Mr. Blum paid his official visit to the JWV Florida Department on Sunday, January 24th in Deerfield Beach.

For 85 years, the Jewish War Veterans has ensured that the rich history of Jewish Americans’ service in our Armed Forces is not overlooked. In fact, over half a million Jewish Americans have served in major conflicts since World War II. This organization is unique in its efforts to combat bigotry and anti-Semitism while remaining inclusive of all veterans, regardless of race, religion, or ethnicity.

Jerry Blum’s tenure as National Commander follows his honorable military service and longstanding involvement with the Jewish War Veterans. His past positions with the organization include Post Commander, Department Commander, and Department Quartermaster. He also publishes the Department of Connecticut’s newsletter, The Shout Out. He is a member of many other veteran service organizations and has served as President of his synagogue. Outside the JWV, he and his wife are involved with Relay for Life and its efforts to raise funds for the American Cancer Society.

I am proud to honor Jerry Blum, the Jewish War Veterans of America, and all the men and women who have defended our Nation through service in our armed forces. The debt we owe our veterans and those who selflessly serve them is immeasurable, and we must always strive to be a nation worthy of their heroic sacrifice.

HONORING MATTHEW MCCLINTOCK

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant First Class Matthew McClintock—a dedicated husband, father, soldier, patriot and hero—who was killed last month while serving his country in Afghanistan.

Matthew was born and raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He graduated from El Dorado High School in 2004 and spent two years at the University of New Mexico before joining the Army in 2006. After completing his training, he was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division and deployed to Iraq in 2007. Matthew demonstrated that he was an exceptional soldier, and in May, 2009 he was selected for training in the U.S. Army Special Forces

School. In November 2010, he was assigned to 1st Special Forces Group, at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington and deployed to Afghanistan from August 2012 to May 2013.

Following his second tour, Matthew left active duty and joined the Washington Army National Guard in December 2014 where he served as a Special Forces engineer sergeant. This past July, Matthew deployed to Afghanistan as a member of the Washington Army National Guard’s Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 19th Group. Despite having already served his country twice overseas, Matthew was eager to put on his uniform again and serve a third tour.

On January 5, 2016, Matthew was killed during an hours-long battle near the city of Marjah, in the southern Helmand province. Matthew and his fellow Green Berets were on a mission advising their Afghan counterparts during the battle, where two of Matthew’s comrades were also injured. In total, since joining the Army, Matthew has been awarded four Army commendation medals, the Combat Infantryman Badge, and now the Purple Heart.

In addition to his bravery on the field of battle, Matthew was also a loving, devoted and adoring husband and father. Matthew and his wife Alexandra married on Christmas Eve 2012 and this past October, Matthew returned home to Tacoma, Washington in time for the birth of his first child, a beautiful boy named Declan. After only a few weeks home, Matthew returned to his unit in Afghanistan.

Following Matthew’s death, Major General Bret Daugherty, commander of the Washington Guard, said, “Staff Sergeant McClintock was one of the best of the best. He was a Green Beret who sacrificed time away from his loved ones to train for and carry out these dangerous missions. This is a tough loss for our organization.” Matthew’s wife Alexandra added, “Matthew’s greatest wish was to be a father, a husband and a Green Beret. He got to do all of those things in his too short life. Declan will grow up knowing his father was the greatest man I’ve ever dreamed to know and a hero.”

Matthew sacrificed his life overseas to preserve the freedom and liberty of millions of Americans. He fought to create a richer and safer life for his wife, his son and his fellow Americans. Matthew represents the very best of our country and his enduring legacy of service and sacrifice will remain a lasting inspiration for future generations.

RECOGNIZING THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF JUDGE GEORGE CARROLL

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the extraordinary life of Judge George Carroll, a prominent civic leader in

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